AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended): A composition for percutaneous administration comprising:

(A) a mixture of polymers forming a surface-segregated film, said polymers consisting of (A-1) a hydrophobic polymer which has a surface tension of 10 to 45 mN/m, takes solid form at normal temperature and normal pressure, and is soluble or dispersible in water and/or a lower alcohol solution, and (A-2) a hydrophilic polymer which has a surface tension of 30 to 70 ~~N/m~~ mN/m;

(B) a hydrophilic active ingredient selected from the group consisting of plant extracts, animal extracts, guanidine derivatives, catecholamines, amino acids, vitamins, and hormones; and

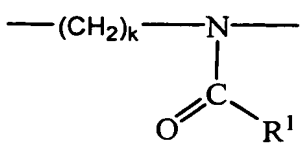
(C) water and/or a lower alcohol.

2. – 3. (Canceled):

4. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the component (A-1) is a silicone polymer or a polymer having a fluorinated carbon chain.

5. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the hydrophobic polymer (A-1) is an oxazoline-modified organopolysiloxane comprising:

an organopolysiloxane segment (a) and a poly(N-acylalkyleneimine) segment (b) which is bonded to the segment (a) at the end or side chain in the molecule thereof via a hetero-atom-containing alkylene group and consists of repeating units represented by the following formula (1):



(1)

wherein, R^1 represents a hydrogen atom, a C_{1-22} alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group, an aralkyl group or an aryl group, and k stands for 2 or 3, wherein the weight average molecular

weight ranges from 50000 to 500000 and a weight ratio of segment (a) to segment (b) ranges from 98:2 to 40:60; and

said oxazoline-modified organopolysiloxane takes solid form at normal temperature and normal pressure, and is soluble or dispersible in water and/or a lower alcohol solution.

6. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the hydrophilic polymer (A-2) is selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl alcohol, polyethylene glycol and pullulan.

7. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the weight ratio of the hydrophobic polymer (A-1) to the hydrophilic polymer (A-2) ranges from 5:95 to 95:5.

8. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the weight ratio of the hydrophobic polymer (A-1) to the hydrophilic polymer (A-2) ranges from 15:85 to 85:15.

9. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the hydrophobic polymer (A-1) in the composition ranges from 0.001 to 30 wt%.

10. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the hydrophobic polymer (A-1) in the composition ranges from 0.005 to 20 wt%.

11. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the hydrophobic polymer (A-1) in the composition ranges from 0.01 to 10 wt%.

12. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the weight-average molecular weight of the hydrophilic polymer (A-2) ranges from 4000 to 500,000.

13. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the weight-average molecular weight of the hydrophilic polymer (A-2) ranges from 10,000 to 500,000.

14. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the hydrophilic polymer (A-2) in the composition ranges from 0.001 to 30 wt%.

15. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the hydrophilic polymer (A-2) in the composition ranges from 0.005 to 20 wt%.

16. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the hydrophilic polymer (A-2) in the composition ranges from 0.01 to 10 wt%.

17. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the hydrophilic active ingredient in the composition ranges from 0.00001 to 30 wt%.

18. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the hydrophilic active ingredient in the composition ranges from 0.0001 to 20 wt%.

19. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the water and/or a lower alcohol has a boiling point less than 210°C.

20. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the water and/or a lower alcohol has a boiling point ranging from 40 to 110°C.

21. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the water and/or a lower alcohol in the composition ranges from 30 to 98 wt%.

22. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the water and/or a lower alcohol in the composition ranges from 50 to 95 wt%.

23. (Previously Presented): A method for accelerating the percutaneous absorption of a hydrophilic active ingredient, which comprises applying the composition described in Claim 1 to the skin of a subject in need thereof.